

REMARKS

On page 2 of the Action, it was held that the information disclosure statement filed on August 1, 2006 does not fully comply with the requirement. In response to the opinion, IDS was filed again on September 19, 2008.

On page 4 of the Action, claims 1-7, 10, 11, 14-18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Krevel et al. (Luminescence Properties of Terbium-, Cerium-, or Europium-Doped α -sialon Materials) in view of Thebault et al. (US 5,411,762).

On page 8 of the Action, claims 1-7, 10, 11, 14-18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Kohtoku et al. (US 4,845,059) in view of Thebault et al.

On page 12 of the Action, claims 1-7, 10, 14-18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Mitomo et al. (US 6,632,379 B2) in view of Thebault et al.

Further, on page 15 of the Action, it was indicated that claims 8, 9, 12, 13 and 19 have not been rejected under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

In view of the rejections and objection in the Action, claim 1 has been amended to include claims 4 and 9. Also, claims 8 and 12 have been amended to independent form. Further, claims 2, 3, and 14-20 have been amended editorially, and claims 5-7, 10-11, and 13 have been amended to change dependencies.

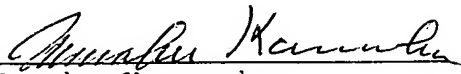
Accordingly, as stated in the Action, claims are patentable over the cited references.

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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